

## **CLAIMS**

1     1.           A device for providing warm towels and the like, comprising:  
2                   at least one towel;  
3                   a package for containing said at least one towel; and  
4                   a heat source, said heat source comprising a frangible  
5 container containing a quantity of supercooled liquid capable of releasing  
6 a predetermined amount of heat upon crystallization and a quantity of  
7 the crystal form of said liquid separated from said supercooled liquid  
8 and present in an amount sufficient to initiate crystallization of said  
9 quantity of supercooled liquid upon flexing said frangible container to  
10 cause said crystal to contact at least a portion of said supercooled liquid.

1     2.           The device of claim 1, wherein said supercooled liquid is  
2 selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate and sodium  
3 acetate.

1     3.           The device of claim 2, wherein said crystallization causes  
2 said causes the temperature of the solidifying liquid to read a controlled  
3 temperature of up to 130 °F.

1     4.           The device of claim 1, which further includes a temperature  
2 sensitive portion on said package to indicate the temperature of the  
3 towels after breaking said frangible container.

1 5. The device of claim 1, which contains a plurality of towels,  
2 said frangible container being placed proximate the middle of said  
3 plurality of towels to provide heat to said plurality of towels.

1 6. The device of claim 1, wherein said towels are formed from  
2 materials selected from the group consisting of natural fibers, synthetic  
3 fibers, synthetic materials and combinations thereof.

1 7. A device for providing warm towels and the like, comprising:  
2 towel means for providing at least one towel;  
3 package means for containing said at least one towel; and  
4 heat source means for producing heat to warm said towel  
5 means, said heat source means comprising a frangible container means  
6 for containing a quantity of supercooled liquid capable of releasing a  
7 predetermined amount of heat upon crystallization and a quantity of the  
8 crystal form of said liquid separated from said supercooled liquid and  
9 present in an amount sufficient to initiate crystallization of said quantity  
10 of supercooled liquid upon flexing said frangible container means to  
11 cause said crystal to contact at least a portion of said supercooled liquid.

1 8. The device of claim 7, wherein said supercooled liquid is  
2 selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate and sodium  
3 acetate.

1 9. The device of claim 8, wherein said crystallization causes  
2 said causes the temperature of the solidifying liquid to read a controlled  
3 temperature of up to 130 °F.

1 10. The device of claim 7, which further includes temperature  
2 sensitive means on said package for indicating the temperature of the  
3 towels after breaking said frangible container means.

1 11. The device of claim 7, which contains a plurality of towels,  
2 said frangible container means being placed proximate the middle of  
3 said plurality of towels to provide heat to said plurality of towels.

12. The device of claim 7, wherein said towels are formed from  
materials selected from the group consisting of natural fibers, synthetic  
fibers, synthetic materials and combinations thereof.

1 13. A method for providing warm towels , comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 placing at least one towel in a package for containing said  
4 towel;  
5 placing a heat source proximate said at least one towel, said  
6 heat source comprising a frangible container containing a quantity of  
7 supercooled liquid capable of releasing a predetermined amount of heat  
8 upon crystallization and a quantity of the crystal form of said liquid  
9 separated from said supercooled liquid and present in an amount  
10 sufficient to initiate crystallization of said quantity of supercooled liquid

11 upon flexing said frangible container to cause said crystal to contact at  
12 least a portion of said supercooled liquid; and  
13 causing said frangible container to release said quantity of  
14 the crystal form of said liquid to contact said quantity of supercooled  
15 liquid to cause an exothermic crystallization of said supercooled liquid.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein said supercooled liquid is  
2 selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate and sodium  
3 acetate.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein said crystallization causes  
2 said causes the temperature of the solidifying liquid to read a controlled  
3 temperature of up to 130 °F.

1 16. The method of claim 13, which further includes the step of  
2 placing a temperature sensitive portion on said package to indicate the  
3 temperature of the towels after breaking said frangible container.

1 17. The method of claim 13, which contains a plurality of towels,  
2 said frangible container being placed proximate the middle of said  
3 plurality of towels to provide heat to said plurality of towels.

1 18. The method of claim 13, wherein said towels are formed  
2 from materials selected from the group consisting of natural fibers,  
3 synthetic fibers, synthetic materials and combinations thereof.